EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF UNITED WAY AND BRIDGING THE GAP'S COLLABORATIVE EFFORT: 2-1-1/FIRST CALL FOR HELP AND HOUSINGCLEVELAND.ORG

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the united effort of United Way and Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless' (NEOCH) Bridging the Gap as they celebrate the newly available HousingCleveland.Org website. This is a vital source of information for individuals and families on the road to personal restoration as they search for safe, affordable housing in Cuyahoga County.

This comprehensive Web site is free to both prospective tenants and property owners. The site currently lists more than 1,500 housing units in more than 20 local cities and villages. The site, available at no cost to property owners, includes a rental checklist, a rent calculator, information on tenant rights and responsibilities and information that includes details about each unit. Tenants can use the site to search by location, rent, number of bedrooms and special needs requirements.

For individuals who do not have access to the internet, the information can also be obtained by calling 2–1–1/First Call for Help line. All information contained in the site is available in Spanish. First Call for Help maintains the site and daily updates are provided by Socialserve.com, a non-profit agency. SCK, a graphic design firm located in the Tremont neighborhood, donated a portion of their time and talents in creating the HousingCleveland. Org site.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the leaders and members of United Way's 2–1–1 First Call For Help, NEOCH's Bridging the Gap, Cleveland Tenant's Organization, Cuyahoga County Office of Homeless Services, Cleveland Department of Community Development, Cleveland State University Center for Neighborhood Development, Cuyahoga County Department of Development, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, EDEN, Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry, Maximum Independent Living and the May Dugan Center.

Let us stand in honor and recognition of the courageous spirit and heart of the children and adults in our community who, despite their struggle and hardship, strive to raise their lives into the realm of hope and possibility and ultimately, through the collaborative work and spirit of our entire community, are able to find their way home.

HONORING OPERATION PEDRO PAN

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Operation Pedro Pan for inviting me to share in this dinner commemorating the 45-year anniversary of the Pedro Pan exodus and benefiting two very important causes; the New Children's Village and the Pedro Pan Archives at Barry University. I had the honor of being present 15 years ago when Elly Chovel presented the Pledge of Thanksgiving, which established Operation Pedro Pan. Tonight, I have the pleasure of giving my heartfelt congratulations to Ms. Chovel on receiving the Monsignor Bryan O. Walsh Award for her years of service and dedication to Operation Pedro Pan.

Operation Pedro Pan is an organization, which has been influential in shaping the Cuban-American community, as we know it today. Many of the Pedro Pan children who made the sacrifice of leaving Cuba for the pursuit of freedom are the leaders of our community today. Among them is my colleague in Washington, DC, Senator MEL MARTINEZ, who is the first Cuban-American elected to the United States Senate—and a Pedro Pan Child.

It makes me proud to see how much Operation Pedro Pan has accomplished in South Florida. Operation Pedro Pan is one of the Cuban-American community's best examples of what can be accomplished through dedication and hard work. Through its advocacy work for children and working to preserve the significance of an important time in Cuban history, Pedro Pan has established itself as a highly respected organization.

I wish the best for Operation Pedro Pan. I hope that in the years to come you continue to reach your goals, so that our children and our children's children realize the sacrifices that our generation made in search of liberty. Once again, I thank you for the opportunity to be here with you tonight. I commend Operation Pedro Pan for the leadership they display in our unity year after year and I look forward to continuing my support for their efforts.

MARKING EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL DAYS

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and pay tribute to all school employees who serve as Education Support Professionals in our Nation's public schools. Custodial Services Education Support Professionals are essential school employees who interact daily with students, staff and parents.

Custodians enhance the school districts they serve in many ways. They provide a unique link between all of the different jobs accomplished in a school environment every day. A student's ability to learn and thrive is often directly influenced by the custodians at his or her school.

A Custodian's daily work load can include managing heating, ventilating and air-conditioning for the entire school building, maintaining responsibility for the safety and sanitation of the school and managing disruptive or violent student behavior until proper authorities arrive on the scene. In addition, many schools consider their custodian to be the "Master at Arms" of their school building. One need only imagine the condition a school would be in without a custodian to understand the enormous importance of custodians to our Nation's schools.

Today as we recognize all education support professionals, I would urge my colleagues to take a moment to express their appreciation for this fine group of Americans who are dedicated, loyal and committed to the educational enhancement of all students.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE JOHN MONAGAN

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to John Monagan, who represented the fifth district of Connecticut from 1959 to 1973. Mr. Monagan passed away on October 23rd at the age of 93.

John was born and raised in Waterbury, the largest city in the fifth district. He went on to Dartmouth college where he was an honors student in French literature. Upon graduation he attended Harvard Law school and in 1937 he received a law degree.

During his 7 terms in Congress, he chaired the House Government Operations sub-committee that helped uncover irregularities in the Federal Housing Administration's financing of the Housing Renewal program. As a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee he led mission study trips to Soviet satellite countries and worked to improve trade relations with Latin American countries.

John Monagan had a passion for public service that started before and continued after his years in the House. In Waterbury he immersed himself in public service, as an alderman, a finance commissioner and eventually as Mayor. As president of the U.S. Association of former members of Congress, he was known to give lectures on the importance of public service. His dedication to serving others is inspirational quality that many of us wish to pass onto the next generation.

Mr. Speaker, we thank and pay our respects to John Monagan for his years of service to Connecticut and the Nation.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor. Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor. IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF MAYOR PAUL L. RUGGLES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Mayor Paul L. Ruggles—devoted husband, father, grandfather, community leader, entrepreneur, veteran of the United States Air Force Honor Guard and admired friend and mentor.

A life-long resident of the Village Newburgh Heights, Mayor Ruggles served as "honorary Mayor" for years before being elected as mayor in 2003. At his cozy restaurant/bar, the Ruggles Inn. Village residents sought out his opinion and advice on issues ranging from speeding cars to the future of economic growth and development for the Village. The friendly, welcoming atmosphere of the Ruggles Inn mirrored the character of its owner. Regular patrons enjoyed Mayor Ruggles' homemade pork chops, city chicken and good conversation. His easy-going demeanor, integrity and kind nature easily drew others to him. In just a short time in office, Mayor Ruggles forged strong bonds with local, county and State leaders, and began the process of renewed economic development—all focused on improving the lives of the people of the Village.

Mayor Ruggles was appointed to serve on council in 2000, and was elected to serve as Mayor in 2003. He was also an active member of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party. Humble yet confident, Mayor Ruggles restored a certain grace and dignity to the Village Hall. His efforts on behalf of the Village ran the spectrum from major economic growth initiatives focused on bringing new industry into the Village, to hiring a new police chief, to restoring Village roads, to settling disputes between neighbors. Regardless of the issue, every concern that the Villagers brought before him consistently had his full attention, concern and commitment.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, gratitude and remembrance of Mayor Paul L. Ruggles. I offer my deepest condolences to his wife Judy; to his daughter, Laura; to his son, Paul; to his son-in-law, Brad; to his daughter-in-law, Jennifer; to his grand-daughters, Alyssa and Samantha; and to his extended family members and many friends. Mayor Ruggles' integrity, generous heart and love for his family, friends and for the people of Newburgh Heights will be forever remembered along East 49th Street, Harvard Avenue, Washington Park Boulevard and miles beyond.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING EFFORTS OF ROSA PARKS

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize a woman who

changed a nation and sent a clear message to America that her people would not be moved. Rosa Parks, who is better known as the "mother of the civil rights movement" changed the course of American history by refusing in 1955 to give up her seat on a bus for a white passenger.

Born Rosa Louise McCauley on February 4, 1913, she married Raymond Parks in 1932. By the early 1950s, Rosa Parks and her now deceased husband were long-time activists in Montgomery, Alabama's chapter of the NAACP.

It is important to know the history of Parks, who worked as a seamstress at a local department store, and on her way home from work one day, she engaged in a simple gesture of defiance that galvanized the civil rights movement. On December 1, 1955, Parks challenged the South's Jim Crow laws—and Montry segregated bus seating policy—by refusing to give her seat up. The bus driver had her arrested. She was tried and convicted of violating a local ordinance.

Her act sparked a citywide boycott of the bus system by African Americans that lasted more than a year. The boycott raised an unknown clergyman named Martin Luther King, Jr., to national prominence and resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation on city buses.

Over the next four decades, she made her fellow Americans aware of the history of the civil rights struggle.

This pioneer in the struggle for racial equality was planted firm in her faith of it one day being a place where all Americans could one day sit on the bus and have the same right as everyone else to enjoy their ride after a long days work.

Her example of what she stood for remains an inspiration to not only me but to freedomloving people everywhere.

Parks was undoubtedly one of the most important citizens of the 20th century. Every American owes their gratitude of freedom to her. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you rise with me today to honor and pay respects to an African American woman who broke down boundaries and knocked down doors.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT WORK AND MISSION OF THE EDSCHOLAR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important work and mission of the Edscholar scholarship program.

Sponsored jointly by Edamerica and Edfinancial Services, the Edscholar program underwrites tuition expenses for qualified incoming freshmen at eligible colleges and universities throughout Tennessee. In a very tangible way, this program acknowledges and rewards outstanding students seeking to improve their lives through higher education.

Today, with the profound need for a more advanced and better trained workforce, col-

lege education has never been more valuable. Despite this reality, obtaining a higher education has become increasingly difficult given escalating tuition costs across the nation. Last year alone, tuition at 4-year public colleges and universities rose 7.1 percent, more than double the rate of inflation.

That is why the Edscholar scholarship program is so important; it helps students who otherwise might not have had access to higher education. By funding scholarships for deserving undergraduates, Edscholar helps these accomplished students develop their individual talents and expand their minds.

Just as important, focusing on the individual helps Edscholar achieve its primary goal of improving the quality of life throughout all of Tennessee. By providing these exceptional students with the means to expand their personal and professional leadership skills, Edscholar is helping to educate and train our next generation of leaders.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring the purpose and spirit of the Edscholar scholarship program.

CONGRATULATING MIKKI CANTON FOR RECEIVING THE JUDGE HAND AWARD

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like this opportunity to congratulate my constituent and a long time friend Mikki Canton as the recipient of the 2005 American Jewish Committee's Judge Learned Hand Award. This distinguished award was established in loving memory of Judge Learned Hand, Senior Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1924 to 1951. It is presented to outstanding leaders in the legal community who exemplify the high principles for which Judge Hand was renowned.

Mikki Canton is the first Cuban-American woman to receive this recognition, and she also has the distinct privilege of being one of the few Hispanic female managing partners at a major Florida law firm. She oversees the daily operations of the Miami office of Gunster Yoakley, and is the chair of the firm's Corporate Strategic Counseling and Public Affairs departments. Her dedicated service to the citizens of South Florida should serve as a model for all of us. Her devotion and desire to reach out to people in need is not only commendable, but inspirational as well. I would like to thank her for the perseverance she has displayed throughout her legal profession.

Mikki Canton is a member of the women's Leadership Board of Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, a group that examines public policies relating to women. She is the Florida chair of the Fellows of the American Bar Association and sits on the board of several large local charities. I am proud to recognize Mikki Canton for her tireless dedication to the well being of our South Florida residents. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mikki on her wonderful service to our community.

CONGRATULATING WES FREED-MAN, THE MAN OF THE YEAR AT B'NAI B'RITH AMOS LODGE NO. 136

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Wes Freedman, recipient of the "Man of the Year" award from B'nai B'rith Amos Lodge No. 136.

A highly respected and talented businessman and community leader, Mr. Freedman earned a reputation for personal integrity. His community service over the years has benefited both young and old alike.

For more than 30 years, Mr. Freedman owned and operated several catalog show-rooms in northeastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Mr. Freedman served on the boards of directors at Johnson Technical School, PNC Bank and Marywood College. He currently serves on the boards at Mercy Hospital, the Jewish Home of Eastern Pennsylvania, Elan Gardens, an assisted living facility, and the Foundation for the Jewish Elderly of Eastern Pennsylvania. He is currently president of the board of Webster Towers, a high rise apartment complex for the independent aging.

Mr. Freedman is a life member of the Jewish Community Center in Scranton and has been a member of B'nai B'rith and Temple Israel for many years.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Freedman on this honor. His commitment to his community reflects a genuine selflessness and devotion to others in need. Mr. Freedman's record of service is exemplary and has helped improve the quality of life for many in northeastern Pennsylvania.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT H. GRIFFIN, DEPUTY COMMANDING GENERAL, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer tribute to a truly superb soldier and engineer, Major General Robert H. Griffin, on the occasion of his retirement as Deputy Commanding General of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. In so doing, I note that this is his second retirement this year—he left Corps Headquarters in August, but agreed to return last month to help guide the Corps through its response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

It has been my pleasure to know and work with General Griffin as he served this nation in three capacities—first as commander of the Corps of Engineers' Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, which includes my home district; then as Director of Civil Works; and finally as Deputy Commander of the Corps of Engineers.

General Griffin's distinguished military service spanned 34 years of dedicated and honor-

able service to this nation. Since his graduation from Auburn University with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and his commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in 1971, he has led at every level of command. During his last ten years, while serving as commander of the Corps of Engineers District in Mobile, Alabama; Chief of Staff at Corps Headquarters in Washington: Commanding General of the Corps' Northwestern Division and then of the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division: Director of the \$5 billion annual Army Civil Works program my subcommittee oversees; and finally as Deputy Commanding General of the Corps of Engineers; he significantly contributed to our nation's global goals and objectives.

General Griffin's technical expertise and superior leadership have been critical to the success of the Army Corps of Engineers' many complex missions. His ability to handle complex tasks, large organizations, difficult negotiations and the most pressing problems has been truly remarkable. He has been equally adept at interacting with the highest levels of government, setting overall strategy for meeting the nation's military construction and water resource needs, and dealing with the intricacies of project design. The organizations he has led have been known for command climates that emphasize teamwork, common sense, prudent risk taking and mission accomplishment. All in all, I know of no finer member of our Army, and I wish him the best in the years ahead.

INTRODUCTION OF SHIRLEY HORN RESOLUTION

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce the introduction of a resolution honoring the late Shirley Horn, a great jazz vocalist who passed away on October 20. For those of you who did not follow her career, Shirley Horn was one of this country's musical and cultural greats.

The resolution speaks for itself, but I would like to highlight some aspects of her life. She was born in the Nation's capital in 1934 and started her musical career as a young child on her grandmother's piano. She continued to study music at Howard University and was invited to attend the prestigious Juilliard School in New York.

She recorded over two dozen albums and was lauded with numerous honors, including being elected into the Lionel Hampton Jazz Hall of Fame, receiving Grammy Awards, an honorary doctorate from Berklee College of Music, and receiving the 2003 Jazz at Lincoln Center Award.

Importantly, Ms. Horn never forgot her background. She was dedicated to the Washington, DC community and, as a result, earned the Mayor's Arts Award for Excellence in an Artistic Discipline.

I would like to express my deepest sympathies to her family and express to them that her passing is a loss to all of us.

HONORING ARMY CAPTAIN JOEL CAHILL

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to pay tribute to Army Captain Joel Cahill, a company commander in the 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry, Fort Benning, Georgia. Captain Cahill was killed in western Iraq on Sunday, the 5th of November. He served two tours in Iraq, as well as two tours in Afghanistan with a unit of the U.S. Army Rangers.

Captain Cahill grew up in Nebraska, and after graduating from Papillion La Vista High School, he joined the Army and began Special Forces training. He was awarded several citations including the Army Achievement Medal and the Soldier's Medal. He was a graduate with honors from the University of Nebraska—Omaha in 1999, earning his commission from the UNO-Creighton ROTC program.

Because of his professionalism and bravery, Captain Cahill was accepted into the Army Rangers, one of the elite groups in the Armed Forces.

Captain Cahill was a devoted father to his two daughters, Faith and Brenna, and devoted husband to their mother, Mary. Faith and Brenna were the joys of his life whenever he could be stateside.

My prayers are with his family, and I offer my condolences to his parents, Larry and Barbara; his three brothers, Larry Jr., Randy, and Jason; and his sister, Erin Christensen.

As a nation, we will honor Captain Cahill's service to the United States with his burial with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery Friday, November 18, 2005.

We are blessed to have men and women like Captain Cahill serve in our military. His deeds, actions, decency, and passion for defending the freedoms we all enjoy will not be forgotten. May he be laid to rest as a hero to his family and to all of us who honor his service to America.

TRIBUTE TO NASHVILLE PUBLIC TELEVISION PRESIDENT STEVE BASS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment today to recognize Nashville Public Television President and CEO Steve Bass for his years of service to our community.

While Steve is leaving us to take on another challenge, his accomplishments in Nashville will be a wonderful legacy to his leadership and dedication.

Since coming to Nashville in 1998, Steve has worked to help establish our area's public television station as a model for the 21st century.

He has made it his mission to put the station on solid financial ground, and that work is paying off. Steve has set an example for the nation's public television stations.

He has expanded programming and highlighted Nashville's unique history and culture. We are thankful for Steve's service and we

wish him nothing but the best in his next endeavor.

TRIBUTE TO USAF LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBERT M. WALKER

HON. BOB BEAUPREZ

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. BEAUPREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to USAF Lt Colonel Robert M. Walker, Deputy Group Commander of the 460th Operations Group, 460th Space Wing, Buckley Air Force Base. Lt Col Walker has been assigned to Buckley AFB since February 20, 2004, and has recently been selected to attend the prestigious USAF Air War College.

Lt Col Walker distinguished himself in 2004 in the performance of outstanding service to the United States as Director of the Space-Based Infrared System Mission Transfer Site Activation Task Force. He led a Total Force 25 person task force that seamlessly transferred the \$16B Space-Based Infrared System to the newly activated 460th Space Wing, Buckley AFB, Aurora CO thus realizing USAF Space Command's vision for space-based warning operations.

In undertaking this endeavor, Lt Col Walker's tireless efforts and ability to work with myriad agencies, organizations, and people allowed for the activation of the 460th Space Wing in a timely and efficient manner.

Lt Col Walker distinguished service continued into 2005 when, as Deputy Group Commander of the 460th Operations Group, 460th Space Wing, Buckley Air Force Base, Lt Col Walker was second in command of an 850 person Total Force Group where his wisdom. experience and work ethic established a foundation for excellence in operations, personnel. communications, and strategic planning.

His accomplishments have truly had a profound impact not only on Buckley AFB but on the surrounding community as well.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to offer my thanks to Lt Col Walker for his commitment and record of achievement at Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora, Colorado. Lt Col Walker is a valuable asset to the United States Air Force and our nation and I wish him well in his future endeavors.

HONORING REV. VINCENT COOKE, S.J. UPON RECEIVING THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE FRIENDS OF AR-CHITECTURE AWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Father Vincent M. Cooke, S.J., President of Canisius College in Buffalo, New York, who is being recognized by the American Institute of Architecture with the Friends of Architecture Award.

In 1993 Western New York was pleased to welcome Father Cooke as the new President

of Canisius, a 36-acre private Jesuit college located on Main Street in the City of Buffalo.

A man with a brilliant educational past, with certificates of degree from Fordham University, Loyola Seminary, Woodstock College, Yale University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Fr. Cooke's vision for Canisius' future would take the college and surrounding community to places never imagined

Over the past 13 years, Fr. Cooke has led the way in planning and implementing \$115 million in capital projects at Canisius, converting the college from a commuter college to an institution ranked number one residential college experience among Jesuit institutions and number five nationwide.

Father Cooke has taken a hands-on approach with each and every project which has resulted in state-of-the-art living and recreation spaces and cutting edge classrooms. His success has earned him recognition by The Buffalo News as the second most influential civic leader in terms of his positive impact on the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and gratitude that I stand here today to recognize Father Vincent Cooke as a Friend of Architecture. Canisius College employs the motto "Where leaders are made" and Fr. Cooke stands as a shinning role model for his students and an example of how true leadership can transform a college and a community.

SCHOOL BUILDING ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. HOLT, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will help schools implement energy saving measures to reduce their energy costs.

We are all too painfully aware of the rising cost of energy. Americans across the Nation are being forced to make tough decisions in order to heat their homes or fill up their gas tanks. The recent spike in energy prices will also be felt in our schools which already spend \$6 billion on energy costs-more than the amount they spend on textbooks and computers combined. Schools across the country are already facing tight budgets; rising energy costs will only worsen their budget situation and could lead to the loss of important school programs.

However, there are ways that schools can offset the soaring price of energy. Through basic changes in the operations and maintenance of school buildings, operating costs can be reduced from 5-15 percent. To achieve even greater savings, schools can retrofit their buildings with more efficient systems and appliances

Although these investments produce economic benefits in the long term, start up financing is often difficult for cash strapped school systems. That is why I am introducing legislation that will provide schools with federal funding to implement these structural changes. Specifically, my legislation will provide grants through the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy for schools that are seeking to make energy efficient upgrades in their schools or build a new energy efficient building. Additionally, this legislation will allow schools to work with the Department of Energy to improve transportation systems that are available to students, employees and other members of the community.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill that will benefit our environment while assisting schools reduce their operating costs.

CONGRATULATING PAULA DAWNING

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesdau, November 16, 2005

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to congratulate Paula Dawning who recently was awarded the honor of State Superintendent of the Year for 2006 in the State of Michigan. Dawning has been the Superintendent of Benton Harbor Areas Schools since July of 2002 after she retired from her career as an executive at AT&T.

The Benton Harbor school system has made progress by leaps and bounds under her direction of during the past few years. Her constant commitment to academic improvement and reform-including additions like the new freshmen academy, improved reading programs, and her fiscal responsibility-have helped bring about a new sense of hope and achievement in a school system that has faced difficult challenges.

The award came as a surprise to Paula, who was not even made aware of her nomination until she had already received the award. In her usual humble demeanor she accepted the prestigius award that recognized her as an outstanding school superintendent; evidence that she stands out as the best among many highly qualified school system administrators.

I want to personally thank Paula for her service which has improved not only the education, but also the lives of the students in Benton Harbor. Paula's hard work and dedication to the children of her community make her a living example to all of people of Southwestern Michigan. I congratulate her once again for her distinguished award.

IN SUPPORT OF MALCOLM MEL-VILLE "MAC" LAWRENCE POST OFFICE

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, some say the measure of a man is the depth of the footprint he leaves behind. Malcolm Melville Lawrence, known as "Mac," left a deep footprint on the community of Francesville as a war hero, community leader, and a teacher.

Born on a farm in Wheatfield, Indiana, Mac attended Purdue University on scholarship where he pursued a degree in Vocational Agriculture, Education, and Science. Despite being denied acceptance into the ROTC program at Purdue, Mac was drafted 5 months after graduating from college and immediately called to Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis to serve his country.

It may be insufficient to say Mac simply did his duty. Landing on the beaches of Normandy on June 6, 1944, with so many other young men from the greatest generation, Mac served as a Medic alongside the 1st Battalion, 18th Regiment of the 1st Infantry Division. Mac was awarded the Silver Star for valor, two Purple Hearts, and two Bronze Stars during five campaigns in World War II.

After the war, Mac and his wife Phyllis moved to Francesville where he began teaching at Francesville High School in 1946. Mac was beloved by his students for his patience and dedication to his craft, teaching everything from vocational agriculture to industrial arts. He finished as an administrator after more than 30 years in education.

Mac was the kind of person every community needs. Whether it was his service to his country or community, Mac asked nothing in return. He served on the library board, was active in Future Farmers of America, and participated in 4–H for 25 years: He was a pillar of the Francesville community and deserved every honor bestowed to him. Though he left this world on July 8, 2004, his legacy lives on.

I welcome the opportunity to further honor Mac Lawrence with the naming of the Francesville Post Office, the Malcolm Melville "Mac" Lawrence Post Office. Leading by quiet example while he was living, Mac deserves resounding recognition after death.

TRIBUTE TO JESSIE, GEORGE AND KYLE HETHERINGTON

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to day to honor Jessie, George, and Kyle Hetherington. Jessie and George Hetherington, two grandparents, have faced many obstacles in the process of adopting their grandson, Kyle. This family is to be commended for they have persisted through personal and legal struggles to ensure Kyle's adoption.

Kyle entered Jessie and George's home in October of 2000. This family joins the growing trend of 6 million children being raised by "Grand Families" keeping children in loving homes. The Hetherington family is exemplary proof that often the best chance a child has at leading a normal life filled with affection is with a family of their own.

It is Grand Families such as the Hetherington's that provide a safe and stable home for children who would otherwise fall into foster care systems. But the commitment to a happy family has many obstacles and requires perseverance. The determination of this family defines unconditional love.

When Jessie and George first brought Kyle home, they lived in an age-restricted community. To keep Kyle, the family moved. Finding a new home was the first obstacle. Then, 15 months later, Kyle's mother regained custody. Kyle later returned to the Hetherington home, but his health, physically and emotionally, was worse than before. Since then, the family has been through several legal battles to keep Kyle from being returned to his mother, an absent father fighting Jessie and George's adoption rights, and accessing services for Kyle's health needs.

The family has undergone an intense legal pursuit but has been guided with love, patience, and support from Kinship, Adoption, Resource, Education (K.A.R.E.) program. The K.A.R.E. program works with Grandparents raising Grandchildren, and helped the Hetherington family navigate a system that does not understand the strength and needs of Grand Families.

The Hetherington family will soon celebrate a legal victory and adopt Kyle on December 6 of this year. Their emotional and legal struggle represents the battle of will over circumstance. This day is an early birthday gift for Kyle and a life long family gift. Kyle is a second grader at Miller Elementary School in Tucson, AZ and turns 8 on November 23.

Jessie ad George Hetherington's love, hard work, and dedication, and that of all Grand Families, should be acknowledged today.

As Jessie states "Love can work wonders done in the right way".

WINTER OUTDOORS MONTH RESOLUTION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as obesity and the associated health risks continue to increase it is important to encourage American's of all ages to participate in physical activity all year long.

To help spread this message, today I am introducing with my colleague from New York Representative JOHN SWEENEY, a resolution urging the President to declare a Winter Sports Month.

This resolution notes the increase in adult and childhood obesity along with the negative consequences of extremely overweight and obese people including a decrease in the average life span and rising health care costs stemming from obesity related illness. It also includes the role winter sport activities can play in addressing obesity and the positive effects of participating in physical activity. It resolves that the House of Representatives urge the President to declare January 2006 Winter Sports Month.

Alpine skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing and cross country skiing, not only offer excellent aerobic and anaerobic exercise but they also are activities that allow an entire family to play together in a natural environment. Colder temperatures and snow should not deter outdoor activities.

"Winter Outdoors Month" would remind citizens of the importance to maintain a consistent exercise program and healthy lifestyle all year 12 months out of the year. Winter sports offer unique opportunities to allow all Americans a chance to be together outside, enjoy the season.

A TRIBUTE TO RETIRING ASSOCIATE PARLIAMENTARIAN MUFTIAH MCCARTIN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Associate Parliamentarian Muftiah McCartin, who has served in the Office of the Parliamentarian with distinction for nearly 30 years.

Muftiah began her career in the Office of the Clerk in 1976 and earned her bachelor's degree and juris doctorate by studying at night. She became the first woman appointed a Parliamentarian in 1991.

When I came to Congress in 1993, Muftiah was like a navigator on a ship. I was unfamiliar with the trappings of the House of Representatives and it was overwhelming. To find the Parliamentarian had lived in Carmel Valley, California and knew my District helped me adjust.

I commend Muftiah as a role model to everyone. A lawyer and working mother, she was here at all hours, as long as the House was in session, sometimes at the expense of her family. Yet she has raised beautiful children: Marissa, Elaine, Sandra and Luke with her loving husband, Terry.

It's always sad to lose longtime professional staff; you lose that irreplaceable, institutional memory. But I wish her well in her new endeavors, including spending more time with her family and training for her next marathon or triathlon.

H.R. 1101

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, legislation which I have introduced, H.R. 1101, revoking a Public Land Order for certain lands erroneously included in the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge in California, was passed by this body on May 23, 2005. Additionally, this legislation was recently reported out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on September 28, 2005, and referred to the full Senate for consideration.

It is my understanding that the Committee included report language with this bill expressing its intent that the 140 acres H.R. 1101 transfers from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to the U.S. Bureau of Land Management not be viewed as an endorsement for development and that any management changes proposed by the Bureau be made through the appropriate planning process and include the continued protection of natural, cultural, and historical resources located on this land. I rise today to state my concurrence with this report language and encourage the Senate to act quickly on passage of this important legislation.

ON COMPULSORY LICENSING OF TAMIFLU

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I sent the attached letter, along with my colleagues, in support of compulsory licensing for Tamiflu on November 9, 2005. I submit a copy for the RECORD

Congress of the United States,
Washington, DC, November 9, 2005.
MIKE LEAVITT.

Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC.

DEAR MIKE: Thank you for participating in the House Government Reform Committee hearing "The National Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Plan: Is the U.S. Ready for Avian Flu?" on November 4, 2005. We are writing to contest your stated justifications for refusing to issue a compulsory license for Tamiflu and to request, again, that you reconsider your stance.

You mentioned that issuing a compulsory license would not hasten the manufacture of Tamiflu because it is a complex manufacturing process that incorporates a step requiring an explosion hazard. There is considerable evidence showing that the manufacturing process is not prohibitively complex or dangerous.

Roche's own advertisement in several periodicals has said that they have "received more than 100 requests from different parties interested in helping us meet production challenges." Indian generics manufacturer, Cipla has announced that they plan to start selling enough generic Tamiflu to treat 100,000 to 200,000 people by March of 2006. News reports indicate that Thailand, Taiwan, Malaysia, and Vietnam plan to initiate production, some as soon as February 2006. Taiwan appears to have made "the drug in just 18 days, not including weekends and a bank holiday, using information from publicly available documents." They also report that Roche has admitted that it exaggerated the complexity of the manufacturing process. Ernie Prisbe, Vice President of Tamiflu inventor, Gilead Sciences, said of the Tamiflu manufacturing process, "There's nothing that overwhelming in this kind of synthesis, or that formidable, that someone couldn't do it."

Clearly, it is feasible to ramp up production swiftly to provide for the U.S. and the entire world.

You also indicated that you did not wish to issue a compulsory license for Tamiflu because it would discourage pharmaceutical companies from investing in research into future anti-virals or other drugs. Please be reminded that whenever a government representative issues a compulsory license, the licenser gets a royalty in order to insure profits are not taken. Roche will undoubtedly continue to make healthy profits if a compulsory license is issued.

You further indicated that an emphasis on Tamiflu is undue since it is not our strongest defense, nor is it guaranteed to be relevant to the virus strain behind a pandemic. I agree that Tamiflu is not a silver bullet. However, to our knowledge, it is the best pharmaceutical defense we have now. Our public health infrastructure is not ready and it will take years to make it so. Until there is a better alternative, and unless we have reason to believe the drug would do more harm than good, and until our state of readiness for a pandemic is stronger, we have an

obligation to do all we can to shore up our weak defenses now. Bear in mind that the shelf life of Tamiflu is five years, which means stockpiles are unlikely to go to waste.

If you are content to wait until 2007 to fill our stockpile needs, a deadline you claimed Roche would be able meet in your testimony, you are gambling with public health with the proceeds going to Roche. If the pandemic does not happen before 2007, Roche keeps their monopoly intact and the public is unharmed. If the pandemic strikes before Roche meets its promised deadline, and nothing has been done to ramp up production—like issuing a compulsory license—our stockpile will be inadequate. History will not be kind to those who could have saved lives but instead deferred to intellectual property rights.

Please reconsider your willingness to issue a compulsory license for Tamiflu.

Sincerely.

DENNIS J. KUCINICH, Member of Congress, BERNARD SANDERS, Member of Congress, MARION BERRY, Member of Congress.

STATEMENT ON THE 29TH ANNUAL AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY GREAT AMERICAN SMOKEOUT

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, an estimated 45.4 million adults in the United States are smokers; with tobacco usage accounting for nearly one in five deaths in the United States. Only about 5 percent of daily smokers who attempt to quit are successful for 3–12 months. That is why the American Cancer Society has designated the third Thursday of November as the Great American Smokeout—a day for smokers to join in solidarity and collectively kick this fatal habit

The health consequences of smoking are grave. Smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States. More than 170,000 Americans will die of smoking-related cancers this year, including lung, mouth, kidney, stomach and cervix cancer. Moreover, smoking affects family, friends and loved ones.

I applaud the American Cancer Society for all they do to eradicate smoking. Their local, state and national efforts help to discourage young people from taking up this deadly habit and the resources they provide have helped numerous smokers guit.

The American Cancer Society is a worthy ally in our fight to improve American's health and safety. I commend the American Cancer Society on their 29th Great American Smokeout and for all they do to maintain the health and well-being of all Americans.

EMERGENCY GENERATORS FOR ELECTRIC NEEDS (E-GEN) ACT OF 2005

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Emergency Generators for Electric Needs (E-GEN) Act of 2005.

More than 3 million Floridians were without power following Hurricane Wilma, some for well over three weeks. Few had electric generators of their own, leaving them dependent on the ability of power and utility companies to efficiently repair damaged infrastructure and make any necessary repairs.

Tens of thousands of seniors in South Florida who were relatively well-off before Hurricane Wilma quickly became vulnerable when the power went out after Wilma. Many of the buildings where they lived were old, illequipped and unable to generate emergency power, placing their lives in immediate risk.

According to various dealers, the costs of portable emergency power generators typically range between \$1,000 and \$3,000 depending on the wattage. Industrial-sized generators can cost upwards of \$50,000. For many residents and communities, these costs are not affordable. The E–GEN Act enables individuals and communities to become self-sufficient when the power goes out. Under the bill, 75 percent of the cost of the purchase and installation of the generator would be eligible for reimbursement in the form of a tax credit. The credit cannot be used in conjunction with other emergencies reimbursements.

For individual homeowners, the credit is not to exceed \$2,500. For businesses, condominium associations, senior communities, and others, the tax credit is not to exceed \$60,000. These credits are vital to alleviate the problems disaster victims face, especially the elemy and infirm, when utility power disruptions prevent the use of essential items such as lighting, refrigeration, elevators, medical supplies, and heating and air conditioners.

Threats of natural and man-made disasters are on the rise. These events require proactive mitigation to protect the public from even larger catastrophes until order is restored. Credits used to purchase emergency generators through the E-GEN Act will save the government money and effort ordinarily used to provide shelters and temporary housing for displaced residents. If we can keep people's power on after a disaster then we can also protect their health and emotional well-being, while also keeping them in the comfortable confines of their own homes, instead of laid out on some cot in a shelter.

A lack of power contributed significantly to the problems that existed in South Florida during and after the 2004 hurricanes and again following Hurricane Wilma. This legislation will help cover the costs for individuals, adult communities and businesses who want to purchase emergency generators but can't afford them.

I ask for my colleagues' support and urge the House Leadership to bring it swiftly to the House floor for consideration. ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE GWICH'IN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I sent the attached statement of support for the Gwich'in tribe on November 4, 2005.

Congress of the United States, $Washington,\ DC.$

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR

A MORAL CHOICE FOR THE UNITED STATES: THE HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE GWICH'IN PEOPLE OF DRILLING IN THE ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

The undersigned Members of Congress express their strong support for the Gwich'in people in their long-running battle to protect their culture and way of life by preventing oil and gas drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The report issued today by the Gwich'in Steering Committee, The Episcopal Church, and Professor Richard J. Wilson, Director of the Human Rights Law Clinic at American University, amply demonstrates that opening the Coastal Plain to drilling would violate the internationally recognized human rights of the Gwich'in to subsistence, to culture, to health, and to religion. The United States has a duty to safeguard these fundamental rights by protecting the Coastal Plain and its prime calving and post-calving grounds for the Porcupine Caribou Herd. The Porcupine Caribou Herd is central to the Gwich'in people's subsistence, culture, and entire way of life, and has been since time immemorial.

The report released today describes the nature of the close relationship between the Porcupine Caribou Herd and the Gwich'in people. According to Gwich'in elder, Jonathan Solomon, "It is our belief that the future of the Gwich'in and the future of the Caribou are the same." The report also draws from the body of scientific research to show that opening the Coastal Plain to oil drilling would displace calving caribou from the prime calving grounds of the Coastal Plain, inexorably driving down calf survival and the population of the herd. Finally, the report shows that the continuing decline of the herd's population or a major change in its migration pattern could make subsistence hunting more difficult for the Gwich'in people or force them to curtail their annual caribou harvest. By damaging the ability of the Gwich'in to rely on the Porcupine Caribou Herd for their physical and cultural needs as they have done for millennia, a decision to open the Coastal Plain to oil exploration and development would violate the human right of the Gwich'in under inter-

nationally recognized norms.

In light of the findings of this report and our moral obligation to protect the Gwich'in way of life, we urge our colleagues to reject any proposal to open the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas exploration and development.

Dennis. J. Kucinich, Edward J. Markey, Barbara Lee, Raúl M. Grijalva, Dale E. Kildee, Donald M. Payne, Maurice D. Hinchey, James P. McGovern, Peter A. DeFazio, Lynn C. Woolsey, Bernie Sanders, Janice D. Schakowsky, Danny K. Davis, Jim McDermott, Sam Farr, John Conyers, Jr., Diane E. Watson, William Lacy Clay, Betty McCollum. HONORING DR. PHILIP KESTEN, 2005 CALIFORNIA PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. Philip Kesten, a professor from Santa Clara University, who was selected as the 2005 California Professor of the Year this week.

The United States Professors of the Year awards, sponsored by the Council for Advancement of Teaching and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, are the only national awards that recognize college and university professors for excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring. Dr. Kesten was one of 42 state winners to receive this honor.

to receive this honor.

After receiving his Bachelors degree in Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. Kesten went on to earn both his Masters and Doctorate in Physics at the University of Michigan. It was here that Dr. Kesten began his career as one of the nation's top educators. As a teaching assistant and head varsity crew coach, Dr. Kesten discovered not only his passion for teaching and mentoring students, but his ability to do it well—he won a teaching award from the Department of Physics.

Dr. Kesten has since gone on to an outstanding career in academia. In addition to his teaching experiences at Michigan and MIT, Dr. Kesten has taught at Brandeis University and is currently an Associate Professor of Physics at Santa Clara University. He is also the current Chairman of the Physics Department and Director of the Ricard Memorial Observatory.

This is not the first time Dr. Kesten has been recognized for his teaching excellence. In 2000, he was awarded the David E. Logathetti Teaching Award from the Santa Clara University College of Arts and Sciences. Seven years prior, the same College of Arts and Sciences recognized Kesten with the Certificate for Exceptional Teaching, Advising, and Curriculum Development.

While his formal education and accolades noticeably highlight his remarkable career, his most honorable work is found in his dedication to the comprehensive development of the student. As the Director of the Residential Learning Communities Program and the Faculty Director of the da Vinci Residential Learning Community, Dr. Kesten has succeeded in integrating the social, residential, and academic facets of a college student's experience.

facets of a college student's experience.

I deeply appreciate all that Dr. Philip Kesten has done to improve the lives of this nation's students and extend my congratulations to him as the 2005 California Professor of the Year.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT E. BUSH

HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Robert E. Bush, a hero whose selfless contributions to our Nation began with his service in the Navy Medical Corps during WWII and continued throughout his remarkable life. Sadly, Mr. Bush passed away on November 8, 2005 at the age of 79. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me today in saluting this outstanding American.

Mr. Bush was born in Tacoma in 1926. In 1943, he left high school to join the Navy Medical Corps. Within a year of enlistment, he participated in an assault on Okinawa, one of the longest and bloodiest conflicts in the Pacific Theatre.

While attending to his wounded comrades on the front lines of the battlefield, Mr. Bush's division came under attack. He unhesitatingly continued to administer aid to those in desperate need as enemy forces pressed forward with their counterattack. Despite his own dangerously exposed position, Mr. Bush refused to evacuate and remained to provide a seriously injured soldier with critical plasma. This heroic act resulted in serious wounds and ultimately cost Mr. Bush his own right eye as he was struck with multiple enemy hand greades. When additional help finally came, Mr. Bush refused treatment until the wounded soldier had been safely evacuated.

At the age of 18, Robert Bush became the youngest sailor to ever receive the military's highest honor, the Medal of Honor. This honor was bestowed personally by President Harry S. Truman. With characteristic selflessness and humility, Mr. Bush refused to consider his own courage apart from those that he served with and considered himself a "custodian [of the Medal of Honor] for those who died." As his son Robert "Mick" Bush put it, "The Medal of Honor was a symbol of Bush's philosophy of putting others first." Throughout the remained rof his life he remained very active with the Congressional Medal of Honor Society where he rose to the rank of president.

In further recognition of Mr. Bush's courage, a naval hospital in Twentynine Palms, California was named in his honor—as was a stretch of U.S. 101 that goes through South Bend and a clinic at Camp Courtney on Okinawa. I am pleased to recognize these lasting tributes to Mr. Bush's self sacrifice in service to others.

Mr. Bush was preceded in death by his wife and high school sweetheart, the former Wanda Spooner, who passed away in 1999 and his son, Lawrence Bush. He is survived by three of his children; Susan Ehle, Robert M. Bush and Richard Bush, eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Mr. Bush will be remembered by his dear family and friends as not only a national hero, but most importantly a dedicated family man who rendered tireless service to those who had the opportunity to associate with him.

Mr. Speaker, I would once again like to pay tribute to this great American hero. His life was a testament to patriotism and courage and I am honored to speak on his behalf today. I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating the life of Mr. Robert E. Bush.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LESBIAN/GAY SERVICE CENTER OF GREATER CLEVELAND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Lesbian/Gay Service Center of Greater Cleveland, as they celebrate thirty years of support, outreach, education and advocacy on behalf of lesbian and gay individuals within our community.

In 1975, founding members Ethan Ericsen, Michael Madigan and Arthur MacDonald embraced a collective vision of human rights for everyone; a vision they transformed into a haven of support and services, named the Gay Education and Awareness Resource Foundation (GEAR). GEAR began the work of community outreach programs, legal advocacy efforts and support programs focused on issues affecting lesbian and gay youth. The Center continues to build bridges with educational and social service organizations throughout the Cuyahoga County, with a strong focus on the youth of our community.

The project, Safe Schools Are For Everyone, exists to provide safe social opportunities, support and leadership training for students, teachers and school administrators. Over the past thirty years, the Center's name has changed and the scope of services has expanded, yet the core mission has remained the same: To craft a kinship of all citizens, gay and straight, who stand united on a solid foundation of tolerance, acceptance and protection of the rights and freedoms of all people, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of all leaders and members, past and present, of the Lesbian/ Gay Service Center of Cleveland. Their collective effort, work, volunteerism and compassion serves to bolster the spirit of those still struggling against a tide of oppression. The Center's vital work offers the promise that one day, the shroud of societal ignorance and intolerance will dissolve into the light of freedom and justice for all.

HONORING JETTE HALLADAY AS TENNESSEE'S PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Jette Halladay, who has been named Tennessee's Professor of the Year. I am proud to say that Dr. Halladay teaches at my alma mater, Middle Tennessee State University. in Murfreesboro. Tennessee.

Dr. Halladay received this honor at the U.S. Professors of the Year awards, the only national awards that recognize outstanding professors of undergraduates at our Nation's colleges and universities.

With her emphasis on educational drama, Dr. Halladay instructs not only future drama

teachers, but also pre-service elementary school teachers. Her students learn how to enhance their lessons with role-playing and other creative activities. Upon graduation they are able to develop engaging lessons that are memorable and educational, such as recreating a journey on the Oregon Trail rather than just reading a textbook summary of Manifest Destiny.

Since 1994, Dr. Halladay has infused her theatre classes with unmatchable enthusiasm and energy. I hope MTSU and its students are fortunate enough to benefit from her talents and unique teaching style for many more years.

I commend Dr. Halladay for this tremendous achievement, and I wish her all the best.

HONORING THE CITY OF NORTH TONAWANDA UPON RECEIVING THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE FRIENDS OF ARCHITECTURE AWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the City of North Tonawanda which is being recognized by the American Institute of Architecture with the Friends of Ar-

Located midway between the Cities of Buffalo and Niagara Falls, North Tonawanda is the 15th largest city in New York with a population of over 33,000 residents.

chitecture Award.

Formerly a manufacturing hub, under the leadership of Mayor David Burgio, City Engineer Dale Marshall and Public Works Superintendent Gary Franklin, North Tonawanda is being transformed into a waterfront destination

The potential for waterfront development in Erie County is great and the City of North Tonawanda has set an example for the rest of the region.

Gateway Park is a premiere attraction for residents and tourists alike. Thanks to new design and infrastructure improvements Gateway Park has come alive year-round with events such as Canal Fest, October Fest, Winter Walk, boat shows, and concerts.

In addition, investments in North Tonawanda redevelopment have served as a catalyst for economic growth resulting in new businesses and jobs in the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and gratitude that I stand here today to recognize the City of North Tonawanda as a Friend of Architecture. Their proactive approach to design and development highlights the natural, historical and architectural resources right here in our backyard.

PRIVATIZATION OF ENVIRON-MENTAL HEALTH PERSPECTIVES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, $November\ 16$, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I sent the attached letter, along with my colleagues, in op-

position to the proposed privatization of Environmental Health Perspectives on November 10, 2005

Congress of the United States, Washington, DC, November 10, 2005.

Dr. ELIAS ZERHOUNI, Director, National Institutes of Health,

Bethesda, Maryland.

DEAR DR. ŽERHOUNI: We write to express our strong opposition to the proposed privatization of Environmental Health Perspectives (EHP). Doing so places at risk the integrity and quality of one of the world's best independent journals covering the area of science that deals with the environment and health. We urge you to reject EHP privatization.

EHP is one of the premier academic peer reviewed journals in the world. It ranks second among 132 environmental science journals, and fifth among ninety public environmental and occupational health journals. If it were considered among the general medical journals like the New England Journal of Medicine and JAMA, it would rank tenth. Early signs indicate that this year, all those rankings are likely to increase.

Its value and uniqueness stem, in large part, from its status as a publicly managed journal. For example, EHP's independence directly enhances the quality of the work it publishes. Their conflict of interest policy is among the strictest of peer-reviewed journals. Such a policy might be compromised if the journal was privately published.

In addition, its public funding source allows it to be an open access journal, which means anyone with Internet access can get any EHP article 24 hours after it is accepted for publication. That is essential because the vast majority of published research is available only through increasingly costly journal subscriptions, institutional license fees, or per-article purchases. This closed system leaves the American public-including physicians, public health professionals, patients and patient groups, students, teachers, librarians and scientists at academic institutions, hospitals, research laboratories, and corporate research centers-under-informed about important, timely research results they helped finance.

Because EHP is publicly funded, important public health functions are performed that the private sector would be unlikely to support. The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), which runs EHP, provides free monthly copies to those in the developing world, where environ-mental health problems are, in many cases, the most severe. NIEHS also provides EHP classroom materials for universities and high schools. These non-revenue-generating programs have high public health value and would be at risk if EHP were privatized. The breadth of appeal and academic discipline that uniquely characterizes EHP would also be at risk of sustaining a narrowing of scope more in line with privately run journals.

Finally, NIEHS does a highly efficient job of running EHP. In the last year, the EHP budget was \$3.3 million, which is less than one half of one per cent of the NIEHS budget. In the last four years, they have reduced their budget by fifteen percent while they have become an open access journal, expanded their reach to other countries, expanded their educational programs, and dramatically increased the quality of the articles. Despite having this record that any private sector establishment would envy, NIEHS is considering still more cost cutting measures to further streamline. The impact of EHP on public health far surpasses its costs.

Privatizing EHP is unnecessary and unwise. It would yield miniscule cost savings

while exacting a large cost to public health. We urge you to reject privatizing EHP. Sincerely.

Dennis J. Kucinich, Hilda L. Solis, Bart Gordon, Mark Udall, Raúl M. Grijalva, Jim McDermott, Brad Miller, Bernard Sanders, Robert Wexler, Barbara Lee, James P. McGovern, James P. Moran, Martin O. Sabo.

CONGRATULATING ARCHBISHOP
OSCAR H. LIPSCOMB ON THE
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ORDINATION TO THE EPISCOPACY
AND THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MOBILE ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Archbishop Oscar H. Lipscomb on the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the episcopacy and to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Mobile.

Mobile native Archbishop Oscar H. Lipscomb holds a master's degree and a doctorate from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Archbishop Lipscomb was ordained a priest in Rome on July 15, 1956, and was consecrated as the first Archbishop of Mobile on November 16, 1980.

Archbishop Lipscomb has been a pillar of the Mobile Catholic community for almost half a century starting when he was assistant pastor at St. Mary Parish. He has also played an integral role in education, serving as a teacher at McGill Institute and later a lecturer at Spring Hill College.

A popular figure in our community, Archbishop Lipscomb has developed a strong reputation for his dedication to the Archdiocese of Mobile. The archbishop has received numerous honors throughout his life including receiving the rank of Papal Chaplain and the title of Reverend Monsignor by Pope Paul VI and being named "Mobilian of the Year for 1981." He has been an active member in the Catholic Historical Association, Historic Mobile Preservation Society, American Catholic Historical Association, Lions Club of Mobile, and the Mobile Metropolitan YMCA. Recently, under the archbishop's leadership, the archdiocese has made significant contributions to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the silver jubilee of Archbishop Lipscomb's ordination to the episcopacy and being the first archbishop of the Archdiocese of Mobile. I also extend my gratitude to Archbishop Lipscomb for 25 years of service to southwest Alabama. I know his sister, Margaret Joyce Lipscomb Bolton, and his many friends join with me in praising his accomplishments and recognizing this milestone in his life.

ON THE FUNDING OF GULF WAR VETERANS ILLNESSES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I sent the attached letter, along with my colleagues, in support of Gulf War Veterans Illnesses Research funding in the Conference Report of the Defense Appropriations Bill on November 10, 2005

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, November 10, 2005.
The Hon. C.W. BILL YOUNG,

Chairman, Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, H-309 U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC. The Hon. John P. Murtha,

Ranking Member, Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, 1016 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN YOUNG AND RANKING MEMBER MURTHA: As the conferees begin to work on the fiscal year 2006 Appropriations bill for the Subcommittee on Defense, we respectfully seek your support for retaining the House funding level of \$10 million for Gulf War Veterans Illnesses research.

The Congressionally chartered Veterans Administration Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses found in September 2004 that fourteen years after the 1990-1991 Gulf War, between 26 and 32 percent of those who served in that war continue to suffer from serious and persistent health problems—typically multiple symptoms that include severe headaches, memory problems, muscle and joint pain, severe gastrointestinal problems, respiratory problems, skin disorders and other problems. They also determined that the existence of these serious and often debilitating problems could not be scientifically explained by stress or psychiatric illness.

We are only now starting to see the long-term effects. For example, ALS, or Lou Gehrig's disease, occurs in Persian Gulf veterans with twice the frequency of peer veterans that were not deployed. Yet a federal research program to better understand these issues that was once \$45 million strong has been virtually eliminated. The FY 06 budget dedicates no funding to either the Department of Defense or the Department of Health and Human Services for Gulf War Illnesses research. The funding we are requesting is consistent with the VA Research Committee recommendations.

The amendment to the FY 06 House Defense appropriations bill that added the research funding was well supported. It passed by voice vote, had bipartisan support and was backed by the American Legion, Paralyzed Veterans of America, the National Gulf War Resource Center, Vietnam Veterans of America, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Finally, research guidance was developed in consultation with top members of the VA Research Committee. We therefore request that the guidance, which is the same as that inserted into the congressional record during

bill debate, be included in the conference report. The guidance text is attached for your reference. We expect this research to supplement the other promising research performed at Army Research, Development, Test and Evaluation within the Department of Defense.

Thank you for consideration of our requests.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Kucinich, Bernard Sanders, Frank Pallone, Jr., Jim McDermott, Lane Evans, Tammy Baldwin, Christopher Shays, Rob Simmons, Rush D. Holt, Barbara Lee, Albert R. Wynn, Carolyn B. Maloney, Lloyd Doggett, Joseph Crowley, Raül Grijalva, John Conyers, Jr., Jay Inslee, Dennis Moore, Collin C. Peterson, Betty McCollum, Ed Case, Members of Congress.

GULF WAR VETERANS' ILLNESSES RESEARCH GUIDANCE FOR THE FY06 DEFENSE DEPART-MENT APPROPRIATIONS CONFERENCE REPORT

It is intended that the appropriation for research on chronic illnesses affecting veterans of the 1991 Gulf War be used for a coherent research program focusing on (1) identification of mechanisms underlying Gulf War illnesses, (2) chronic effects of neurotoxic substances to which veterans were exposed during deployment; (3) studies that expand on earlier research identifying neurological and immunological abnomalities in ill Gulf War veterans; and (4) identification of promising treatments. The primary objective of the research program will be to elucidate pathophysiological mechanisms underlying Gulf War illnesses, which may subsequently be targeted to developing treatments for these conditions. A further objective will be to identify and evaluate treatments which currently exist and which hold promise for treating these illnesses.

The U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command shall, in consultation with experienced research scientists in relevant fields, establish a list of research questions to address the above topics, and design a program of specific research studies that together constitute a coherent plan to answer these questions, each identified study to be conducted by the most qualified researcher, which may include consulted scientists. As part of this process, there shall be a public solicitation of research proposals (which may include concept exploration and pilot projects) on these questions and at least twenty-five percent of the program (measured by amount funded) shall be made up of proposals selected from this solicitation, as modified if necessary to increase the value of the proposed research to the overall program. At least twenty percent of the program (measured by amount funded) shall address the objective of identifying and evaluating promising existing treatments, such as observation and pilot studies. The program shall be submitted for determination of scientific merit through independent peer re-

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS mittee—of t

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily

Digest-designated by the Rules Com-

mittee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the Congressional Record on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2005 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 18

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the future
of science.

SD-562